

Claims:

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is:

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A12~~ 1. An apparatus for periodically moving information units from a plurality of sources to an output destination based on information stored about each of the plurality of sources, the apparatus comprising:

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a first time-based calendar which handles some of the information units based on the information stored about the plurality of sources;

a second time-based calendar which handles other of the information units based on the information stored about the plurality of sources;

a third calendar which is time-independent which handles other of the information units based on information stored about the plurality of sources;

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a fourth calendar which handles information units based on limiting peak burst rate, providing a scheduling delay when the peak burst rate exceeds a calculated value;

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a timer which periodically generates a signal which moves a single information unit to the output destination, with the single information unit chosen based on stored rules.

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